NATIONAL RAILROAD ADJUSTMENT BOARD

THIRD DIVISION

Award Number 25357

Docket Number SG-25252

Eckehard Muessig, Referee

(Brotherhood of Railroad Signalmen

PARTIES TO DISPUTE: (

(Consolidated Rail Corporation

STATEMENT OF CLAIM: Claim of the General Committee of the Brotherhood of Railroad

Signalmen on the Consolidated Rail Corporation:

Appeal of discipline assessed against S. H. Steiner by notice dated April 29, 1982 -- thirty days suspension, deferred six months. [System Docket 1859-D-Eastern Region Case EH-SI-29-82]

OPINION OF BOARD: The Claimant in this dispute was charged with violating a number of the Carrier's Rules as a result of his alleged involvement in an altercation. Following a trial, he was assessed a thirty (30) day deferred suspension.

The Carrier has raised certain procedural objections to the claim which we find are not supported by the record and, accordingly, these are set aside.

With respect to the merits, the **Board** notes the absence of eye witnesses to the alleged event and the denial by the **two** persons **who**, it is contended, were involved in the altercation. Under these circumstances, the Carrier has not met its burden of proof, and the suspension will be removed from the Claimant's record.

FINDINGS: The Third Division of the Adjustment Board, upon the whole record and all the evidence, finds and holds:

That the parties waived oral hearing;

That the Carrier and the **Employes** involved in this dispute are respectively Carrier and **Employes** within the meaning of the Railway Labor Act, as approved **June** 21, 1934;

That this Division of the Adjustment Board has jurisdiction **over** the dispute involved herein; and

That the Agreement was violated

AWARD

Claim sustained.

NATIONAL RAILROAD ADJUSTMENT BOARD

By Order of Third Division

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Nancy J. Defer - Executive Secretary

Dated at Chicago, Illinois, this 29th day of March 1985.